

Remarks

Claims 1-24 are pending in this application. Applicant has amended claims 1-4, 6-15 and 17-24 to clarify the present invention. Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration of this application.

Applicant has amended the specification to insert reference to the priority application.

Applicant has amended the claims to address the objections. Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the objection to the claims.

The Examiner rejected claims 21 and 23 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Applicant has amended claim 21 to correct its dependency. Applicant submits that claim 21 and claim 23, which depends from claim 21, comply with 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-4, 6, 9, 13-16, 18, 21, 23, and 24 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. patent 5,757,099 to Cheng et al. The Examiner rejected claims 5 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cheng et al. in view of U.S. patent 6,370,050 to Peng et al. The Examiner rejected claims 7 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cheng et al. in view of U.S. patent 5,396,165 to Hwang et al. The Examiner rejected claims 8, 10, 11, 20, and 22 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable

over Cheng et al. in view of Hwang et al. The Examiner rejected claim 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cheng et al. in view of U.S. patent 6,552,919 to Bors.

Cheng et al. does not suggest the present invention as recited in claim 1 since, among other things, Cheng et al. does not suggest an auxiliary power supply including a power source at ground potential. Rather, Cheng et al. appears to suggest a hybrid active/passive filter system that includes a filter to be used in power supply lines other than high voltage transmission systems. Cheng et al. also does not suggest a transmission link that includes two current paths each closed by a capacitive coupling to provide insulation between the ground potential and a high potential. In fact, Cheng et al. does not even include the terms "ground potential" or "load potential".

Rather than suggesting an auxiliary power supply for a high voltage installation, Cheng et al. appears to suggest a hybrid active/passive filter system with dynamically variable inductance. The filter harmonically compensates for large nonlinear loads. Hence, the hybrid active filter includes a passive filter connected in series with an active filter. The passive filter portion of the hybrid active filter includes passive capacitors and inductors, as described at col. 5, line 13. The active filter is implemented using a three phase pulse width modulation or square-wave voltage source inverter connected in series with the shunt passive filter, as described at col. 9, line 35. A DC bus capacitor provides the inverter a steady voltage, as described at col. 9, line 40. According to Cheng, the active filter, represented by the inverter, provides a dynamically variable inductance, making possible fine tuning of the hybrid filter to compensate for the harmonic distortion of the load, as described at col. 9, line 20.

Hence, Cheng et al. does not suggest utilizing the inverter to supply power to a load on high voltage potential of the transmission line. The DC bus capacitor only provides temporary energy storage of electric energy and cannot operate as a power supply. During a first part of a period of the fundamental frequency the capacitor arranged to store energy, while during a second part of a period of the fundamental frequency the capacitor provide the energy. Thus, the DC capacitor only provides a temporary energy storage common for all three phases of the system. Furthermore, the inverter suggested by Cheng et al. cannot operate in case of a power failure on the power line.

Substituting the power source according to the present invention for the DC capacitor suggested by Cheng et al., the filter construction suggested by Cheng et al. would still only supply power to a load connected to a power supply line and not to a load circuit positioned on high voltage level.

In view of the above, Cheng et al. does not suggest the present invention as recited in claim 1, or claims 2-4, 6, and 9, which depend from claim 1. It follows that Cheng et al. also does not suggest the present invention as recited in claim 13, which includes a method for supplying auxiliary power to a high voltage installation, or claims 14-16, 18, 21, 23, and 24, which depend from claim 13.

Combining Cheng et al. and Peng et al. does not suggest the present invention as recited in claims 5 and 17, which depend from claims 1 and 13, respectively, since, among other things,

Peng et al. does not overcome the above-discussed deficiencies of Cheng et al. For example, Peng et al. does not suggest a high voltage installation. It follows that Peng et al. does not suggest an auxiliary power supply for a high voltage installation or a method for supplying auxiliary power to a high voltage installation.

Rather, Peng et al. suggests an isolated and soft-switched power converter for providing an improved converter for hybrid electric vehicles. Hence, Peng et al. suggests a battery power supply for feeding an electric motor via a converter. Peng et al. also does not suggest a capacitive coupling for providing insulation between a ground potential and a high potential. A person skilled in the art would not look to Peng et al. for a solution to a problem of finding a power source suitable for high voltage applications.

Therefore, Peng et al. does not suggest the present invention as recited in claims 5 and 17.

Combining Cheng et al., Peng et al. and Hwang et al. does not suggest the present invention as recited in claims 7 and 19, which depend from claims 1 and 13, respectively, since, among other things, Hwang et al. does not overcome the above-described deficiencies of Cheng et al. and Peng et al. For example, Hwang et al. does not suggest an auxiliary power supply including a power source at ground potential. Additionally, Hwang et al. does not suggest a transmission link that includes two current paths each closed by a capacitive coupling to provide insulation between the ground potential and a high potential. Therefore, the combination of Cheng et al., Peng et al. and Hwang et al. does not suggest the present invention as recited in

claims 7 and 19. It follows that the combination of Cheng et al. and Hwang et al. does not suggest the present invention as recited in claims 8, 10, 11, 20, and 22, which depend from claims 1 and 13, respectively.

The combination of Cheng et al. and Bjorklund et al. does not suggest the present invention as recited in claim 12, which depends from claim 1, since, among other things, Bjorklund et al. does not overcome the above-discussed deficiencies of Cheng et al. For example, Bjorklund et al. does not suggest an auxiliary power supply including a power source at ground potential. Additionally, Bjorklund et al. does not suggest a transmission link that includes two current paths each closed by a capacitive coupling to provide insulation between the ground potential and a high potential. Therefore, the combination of Cheng et al. and Bjorklund et al. does not suggest the present invention as recited in claim 12.

In view of the above, the references relied upon in the office action, whether considered alone or in combination, do not suggest patentable features of the present invention. Therefore, the references relied upon in the office action, whether considered alone or in combination, do not make the present invention obvious. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection based upon the cited references.

In conclusion, Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration of this case and early issuance of the Notice of Allowance.

If an interview would advance the prosecution of this application, Applicant respectfully

urges the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The undersigned authorizes the Commissioner to charge fee insufficiency and credit overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account 22-0261.

Date: 12/21/06

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric J. Franklin", written over a horizontal line.

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